



# News Release

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1222 Spruce Street, St. Louis, Missouri 63103-2833 / [www.mvs.usace.army.mil](http://www.mvs.usace.army.mil)

## Army Corps of Engineers St. Louis Flood Fight Update

St. Louis, Mo. – The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers in St. Louis continues to monitor three levees between Hannibal, Mo., and St. Louis that have a high potential for overtopping and flood fighting measures are ongoing. Yesterday, 30,000 filled sandbags were delivered to Clarksville, Mo., from Quincy, Ill. The sandbags were prepared for flood fighting efforts in Quincy but were sent to aid communities to the south as the river's crest has passed Quincy.

Urban levees in the St. Louis area along the Mississippi River are also being monitored to ensure that nothing unexpected arises. A map showing levee status is available on the web at <http://www.mvs.usace.army.mil/floodfight/Status.html>

The St. Louis District has reported 11 levees overtopped and the Rock Island District has reported 13. Information about Rock Island District's levees is available at <http://www.mvr.usace.army.mil/PublicAffairsOffice/MidwestFlooding2008/Home.htm>

Here are impacted levees in the St. Louis District:

<u>Overtopped Levees</u>	<u>Date Overtopped</u>	<u>Level of Protection</u>	<u>County</u>
Columbia Bottoms	18 June	5 year	St. Louis
Kuhs	18 June	10 year	St. Charles
Pike Grain #3	18 June	25 year	Pike
Kissinger	17 June	30 year	Pike
Elsberry	17 June	20 year	Lincoln/Pike
Kings Lake	17 June	14 year	Lincoln
Sandy Creek	17 June	14 year	Lincoln
Foley	17 June	18 year	Lincoln
Cap au Gris	17 June	14 year	Lincoln
Brevator	17 June	14 year	Lincoln
Pike Grain #4	15 June	25 year	Pike

While the St. Louis District does not anticipate any issues with levees located south of St. Louis to Cairo, Ill., flood fight team members and geotechnical experts are in the field working closely with local levee districts and county emergency management agencies to ensure that nothing unexpected arises.

To date the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers has issued 13.4 million sandbags, 2,893 rolls of plastic sheeting and 17 pumps to support flood fighting efforts in the Midwest. That is enough sandbags to stretch from San Francisco to Washington D.C. Currently the Corps of Engineers has 334 personnel directly involved in flood fight efforts.

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## Navigation

Locks 16-25 remain closed. (Note: There is no Lock 23) They will remain closed for one week or longer. For locks to reopen, water must be below lock walls and miter gates and cleanup and needed repairs must be made by lock personnel. Locks are still underwater and therefore it is too early to predict when all locks will be open and operating.

While passage through locks is currently not possible, barge traffic is permitted in the pools between the locks but that is in adherence to safety restrictions issued by the U.S. Coast Guard.

Below is the updated schedule of U.S. Army Corps of Engineers locks that remain closed on the Upper Mississippi River.

### June 12:

**Lock 16** (Illinois City, Ill. – River Mile 457.2) closed at 11:30 a.m.

**Lock 17** (New Boston, Ill. – River Mile 437.1) closed at 2:53 a.m.

**Lock 18** (Gladstone, Ill. – River Mile 410.5) closed at 2:15 a.m.

**Lock 20** (Canton, Mo. – River Mile 343.2) closed at 9:20 p.m.

### June 13:

**Lock 14 Auxiliary Lock** (Pleasant Valley, Iowa – River Mile 493.3) closed.

**Lock 19** (Keokuk, Iowa – River Mile 364.2) closed at 9:08 p.m.

**Lock 21** (Quincy, Ill. – River Mile 324.9) closed at 5:40 p.m.

**Lock 22** (Saverton, Mo. – River Mile 301.2) closed at 5:35 p.m.

### June 14:

**Lock 24** (Clarksville, Mo. – River Mile 272.2) closed at 2 p.m.

**Lock 25** (Winfield, Mo. – River Mile 241.3) closed at 2 p.m.

If you need more information, please contact the Rock Island District Corporate Communications office, at (309) 794-5274 for locks 14 - 22; or the St. Louis District Public Affairs Office at (314) 331-8002 for locks 24 and 25.

The Mississippi River is moving swiftly. Swimming, wading or entering the Mississippi River during these high river stages is not recommended. There are no short cuts to safety. The Corps also urges people who live or travel near the rivers to continue to monitor water levels and in particular, not to drive into water-covered roads. Alternative routes should be used.

The Kaskaskia Lock and Dam in Modoc, Ill., which is located on the Kaskaskia River, is also closed to navigation. The lock was closed June 16. Yesterday, June 20, the U.S. Coast Guard closed a portion of the Kaskaskia River to recreational boaters, from mile marker 0.0, at the confluence of the Kaskaskia and Mississippi Rivers, and mile marker 21.0, near Evansville, Ill., due to high water levels causing floating debris and submerged rock lined banks creating significantly hazardous conditions for recreational boaters.

## **Informational Sites**

Updated information about the Mississippi River is available on the web by visiting the Corps' website at [www.rivergages.com](http://www.rivergages.com). This web site includes links to the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and National Weather Service websites that track Mississippi River flow and projected rainfall amounts.

### **St. Louis District Flood Fight Page:**

<http://www.mvs.usace.army.mil/floodfight/>

### **Rock Island District Flood Fight Information:**

<http://www.mvr.usace.army.mil/PublicAffairsOffice/MidwestFlooding2008/Home.htm>

### **Graphic of Lock Locations:**

<http://www.mvr.usace.army.mil/PublicAffairsOffice/9FootStaircase.gif>

### **Graphic of Mississippi River 9-foot Staircase:**

<http://www.mvr.usace.army.mil/PublicAffairsOffice/LockLocationMap.pdf>

### **U.S. Coast Guard**

<http://www.uscgstormwatch.com>

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